



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
LANSING

JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

GLORIA J. JEFF
DIRECTOR

July 2003

Dear Friend:

This Five Year Road & Bridge Program (2003-2007) continues the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) pledge of repairing and rebuilding the state's road network. MDOT is presenting this plan as part of an ongoing effort to share our priorities for preserving and improving Michigan's transportation system.

This year, the plan's focus is Governor Granholm's Preserve First Strategy for preserving our existing road and bridge network. We continue to work toward our goal of having 95% of freeways and 85% of non-freeways under MDOT's jurisdiction in good condition by 2007 and will advance preservation work from 2004 into 2003, while adding preservation work to 2004 and beyond. We must also look ahead and continue to modernize our aging freeway system to meet future demands.

MDOT road and bridge improvement projects continue to be prioritized based on long-term, asset-management strategies. To minimize the impact on drivers, businesses, visitors, and communities in Michigan, we will continue using a corridor approach, grouping road and bridge projects to accomplish more work in fewer construction seasons. We work constantly to keep as many lanes open as possible during construction of these projects, reduce the length of time during which roadwork affects traffic, and improve our communications efforts to make sure motorists have the most accurate and timely information. We are also moving forward with our plans to develop a strategy for implementing meaningful warranties and then require a warranty on major projects, ensuring that the investments we make on behalf of Michigan taxpayers are as responsible as possible, and offer the best protection against any future deterioration.

The success of this plan depends upon full state and federal funding. Only then can we have an effective and fully multi-modal transportation system with a broad sphere of influence that significantly improves our daily existence at every level. Conversely, inadequate investment diminishes the strength of our communities and our economy. Simply put, ensuring the preservation and improvement of a well maintained, modern transportation network in Michigan is critical to our prosperity and quality of life.

If you are interested in learning more about activities at MDOT, I encourage you to contact one of MDOT's 26 local Transportation Service Centers (TSCs). A map displaying the location of the Regions and TSCs is on page 40 of this plan and the addresses and phone numbers for our TSCs can be found in the white pages of your telephone book, or on-line at www.michigan.gov. If you would like to communicate with me directly, my toll-free telephone number is 1-888-296-4546. You also can send me an e-mail at mdotdirector@michigan.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gloria J. Jeff".

Gloria J. Jeff, Director